

ARTICLES
TO BE
ENQUIRED OF
WITHIN
THE DIOCESE
OF
LINCOLNE.

In the PRIMARY VISITATION
OF THE

Right Reverend Father in God

WILLIAM

Lord Bishop of that DIOCESE,
Anno Dom. 1668.

Et Translationis sue Anno Primo.

In the SAVOR,
Printed by Tho. Newcomb 1668.

The Advertisement.

THe Minister of every Parish both may and ought to joyn with the Church-wardens, or other sworn Men, for the Presenting of Offences; and if they be so irreligious as not to do it, the Minister of himself may and ought to present either the Offences, or the Church-wardens and Questmen, for not presenting the same; and is required in his Canonical Obedience so to do.

And if (their Oath and all this punctual Direction and Advertisement notwithstanding) any Church-wardens or other sworn Men, shall follow the Customary manner, and be careless in inquiring and presenting as they ought, then shall they not be able hereafter to say, that they had not fair warning to the contrary given them in the spirit of Meekness, or to complain they are hardly dealt with, if (upon information and proof otherwise had) they be called to answer their willful Perjury, in some other Court, or Course of Justice, for neglecting to enquire and present to all the particulars herein proposed.


Lastly, with their Bill of Presentment they are to certify the Names of all Persons which have been married in their Parish since the 28th day of May last, by any Licence or Dispensation, and what Ecclesiastical Judge granted the same? And also the Names and Surnames of all Persons which since the same day have died possessed of any Goods in their Parish, and who do now possess the same, and by what Right? And this will be particularly required of all Church-wardens.

*The OATH ministred to the Church-wardens
and sworn Men.*

YOU shall duly Enquire, and true Presentment make of all Offences or Defaults mentioned in the Articles given You in Charge, or otherwise against the Ecclesiastical Laws; together with the Names of the several Offenders therein. *So help you God.*



ARTICLES to be enquired of in the Diocese of LINCOLNE.

I.  S there any who doth affirm or teach that the Kings Majesty hath not the same Authority in Causes Ecclesiastical that the Godly Kings had among the Jews, and Christian Emperours in the Primitive Church? Or that the Kings Majesty within his Realms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and all other his Dominions and Countreies, is not the Highest Power under God? Or that doth impeach any part of his Royal Supremacy? Who is it, declare your knowledge herein, &c?

Canon 1.
& 2.

2. Is there any that doth affirm or teach, That it is lawful for any sort of Ministers and Lay Persons, or either of them, to joyn together and to make Rules, Orders, and Constitutions in Causes Ecclesiastical, without the Kings Authority? Or any that submit themselves to be ruled and governed by the same?

Canon 12.

3. Is your Parish Church or Chappel well and sufficiently repaired? Are the Windows well glazed, the Floor kept paved plain and even, and all things therein in such an orderly and decent sort without dust, or any thing that may be either noisome or unseemly?

Canon 85.

4. Is your Church-yard well and sufficiently fenced, maintained and kept with Walls, Railes, or Pales, as hath been heretofore accustomed; and if not, by whose negligence or default is it that the Fences of the same are grown into decay?

Canon 85.

5. Have you a true Rote and Terrier of all the Glebe Lands, Meadows, Gardens, Rycharde, Houles, Stocks, Implements, Tenements, and Portions of Tythes lying within or without your Parish, which belong to your Parsonage or Vicaridge; and is a true Copy of the same laid up in the Bishops Registry for a perpetual memory thereof?

Canon 87.
Custome.

*Lindwode
Prov. de Im-
munit. Eccl.
C. 2. ut In-
videntib. &
S. quia Divi-
ni, &c. Eo-
dem de Eccl.
Edificatione
C.*

*Excep. in the
Act of In-
demnity.
De offic. Ar-
chid. C. ut
Archi. 9.
De Immun.
Eccl.*

*Canon 47,
& 48.*

Canon 47,

Canon 48,

*Canon 55,
& 56.*

6. Is there any in your Parish who hath sacrilegiously enriched himself by rifling any Tombs, or by taking away the Communion Plate, Surplice, Church Books, Bells, or Lead, or any Ornament or other Utensills and Materialls belonging to the Church?

7. Is your Parsonage House, or Vicaridge House, Barnes, Stables, and other Out-houses thereunto belonging, in good and sufficient repair?

8. Do you know, or have you heard of any Person who hath imbezill'd, concealed, or converted to his own use any Timber, Wood, Stone, or other Materialls, belonging to any Church, Chappel, Parsonage, or Vicaridge House, during or since the late War?

9. Hath any person encroacht upon the Ground of the Church-yard or other consecrated Ground? If so, then you shall present him, and set out what quantity of Ground is so encroacht upon; and whether any new Dooz hath been made out into the Church-yard?

10. Doth your Minister reside upon his Benefice or no? If yea, then being a Licens'd Preacher, doth he preach one Sermon every Sunday in the Year in his own Cure, or in some Church or Chappel near adjoyning; having no lawful Impediment? And being not a Licens'd Preacher, doth he procure Sermons to be preached in his Cure once every Moneth at the least, by Preachers which are lawfully licens'd? If he be licens'd by the Laws of this Realm not to reside upon his Benefice, then in that case doth he supply his Cure by one that is a sufficient and licens'd Preacher? And is your Curate allowed, and sufficiently licensed to serve there?

11. Have you in your Parish besides your Parson, Vicar, or Curate any Lecturer or Lecturers, not having cure of Souls therein? Doth your Lecturer twice at the least every Year, read the Divine Service on two severall Sundayes both in the Forenoon and Afternoon, publickly, at the usual times? And doth he as oft in every Year administer the Sacraments of Baptisme and the Lords Supper, in such manner and form, and with the Observation of such Rites and Cere-

Ceremonies as are prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer?

12. Is your Lecturer licens'd by the Bishop of the Dioceſe, and doth your Lecturer or any other Preacher that lectureth or preacheth in your Church or Chappel, impugne or confute any Doctrine ſomerly delivered in the ſame, or in any Church or Chappel near adjoyning, before he hath acquainted the Biſhop of the Dioceſe therewith; and received Order from him what to do in that caſe, for the avoiding of Diſſention? Can. 53.

13. Doth your Lecturer conform himſelf to the Laws, Ordinances, and Rites Eccleſiaſtical, eſtabliſhed in the Church of England? Can. 54.

14. Doth your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate, adminiſter the Communion in your Church or Chappel, ſo often, and at ſuch times, as every Pariſhioner may communicate at leaſt thrice in the Year; whereof the Feaſt of Eaſter to be one? And doth he give warning to his Pariſhioners publickly in the Church at Morning Prayer the Sunday before, for the better preparation of themſelves? And do ſuch as purpoſe to communicate, ſignifie their minds unto the Curate over-night or in the Morning early? Rubrick of the Common Prayer. Can. 24.

15. Doth your Miniſter admit to the receiving of the Holy Communion ſuch of his Cure as be openly known to live in notorious ſin, without Repentance; or any that have openly or maliciously contended with their Neighbours, and will not be induced to a reconciliation: Or any Church-wardens or Sides-men, who having taken Oath to preſent to their Ordinaries every ſuch publick Offence, as they are particularly charged to enquire of, ſhall wittingly incur the horrible crime of Perjury? Can. 26.

16. Doth your Miniſter reſuſe or delay to chriſten any Child that is brought to him to the Church on Sundayes or Holydayes? Doth he proceed therein in all things according to the form of Publick Baptiſme in the Common Prayer-Book? Or doth he permit any perſon to be God-father or God-mother before he or ſhe hath received the Holy Communion? Rubrick of Baptiſme. Can. 68. Can. 29.

17. Doth

Can. 69.
Rubrick of
Private Bapti-
sm.

17. Doth your Minister, being duly informed of the weakness and danger of death of any Infant unbaptized in his Parish, and being thereupon desired to go unto the place, and baptize the same, either willfully refuse to do, or negligently delay the time, so that the Child departeth without Baptisme through his default? Or if the Child so baptized do recover afterwards, is it brought into the Church by the God-fathers and God-mothers, to the intent that the Congregation may be satisfied of the baptizing thereof?

Can. 61.
Rubrick of
Confirmati-
on.

18. Doth your Minister do his best endeavour to prepare Children, and make them ready for Confirmation; that so they may in their own persons renew the Promise and Vow made in their name in Baptisme: solemnly ratifying and confirming the same in the presence of the Bishop? And to that purpose doth your Minister on every Sunday in the Afternoon instruct the youth and ignorant of the Parish, according to the Church Catechisme?

Rubrick of
Confirmati-
on.

19. Doth your Minister as often as the Bishop giveth notice for Children to be brought to him for their Confirmation, either bying or send in writing to the Bishop of the Diocese the Names of all those Children whom he thinks to be fit for Confirmation?

Can. 62.
Rubrick of
Matrimony.

20. Doth your Minister or any other in your Parish, celebrate Matrimony between any persons, without Banes of Matrimony first publisht on three severall Sundayes or Holydayes, except by special Licence granted duly and by lawful Authority?

Can. 59.

21. Doth your Minister or any other in your Parish, celebrate Matrimony at any other Place then in the Church, and in the Church at any other time then between the hours of Eight and Twelve in the Forenoon: and at any time betwixt such persons as are prohibited in the Table of Marriage, or are under the age of One and twenty years, without the consent of the Parents signified unto him, or of their Guardians and Governors, if the Parents be deceased?

Can. 100.

Can. 65.
Rubrick of
Visitation of
the Sick.

22. Doth your Minister duly visit the Sick, having notice of their Sicknes, if the Disease be not known, or probably suspected, to be infectious? Doth he exhort the

the Sick to be in Charity with all the World, and if he hath done any Injury or Wrong to any man, to make him satisfaction according to his power; to dispose of his Goods; to declare his Debts, to be liberal to the Poor, and to unburden his Conscience?

23. Have you known or have heard that your Minister hath revealed and made known to any person or persons whatsoever, any Crime or Offence committed to his Trust and Secrecy, either in case of such extremity, or any other case whatsoever; except they be such Crimes as by the Laws of this Realm the life of the said Priest or Minister may be called in question for concealing of it? Declare the name of the Offender, when and by whom you have heard the same? Can. 113.

24. Doth the Curate that ministrereth in your Parish, upon convenient notice given him, administer the Communion unto such as be dangerously sick, and not able to come unto the Church, and yet are desirous to receive the same in their Houses, and are unquiet for the lack thereof? Or doth he obstinately and wilfully refuse so to do, being thereunto so required, and finding all things necessary for the doing of it? Rubrick of the Common Prayer.
Can. 67.

25. Doth your Minister refuse or delay to bury any Corps that is brought into the Church or Churchyard, convenient warning being given him before; except the party deceased were denounced Excommunicate (Majori Excommunicatione) for some grievous Crime, and no man able to testify of his repentance? And doth he do it decently and gravely, not swerving from the Form prescribed by the Church in the Common Prayer-Book? Can. 68.

26. Doth your Curate serve more than one Church or Chappel upon one day, except the said Chappel be a member of the Parish Church, or united thereto; how far distant are the said Churches or Chappels he serveth from one another, and what Wages or Salary hath he for his pains? Can. 48.

27. Doth your Minister if he be commanded by the Ordinary, openly on some Sunday denounce and declare for Excommunicate, all those, who either for refusing to frequent the Divine Service of the Church, Can. 65,
or & 85.

or for noxious contumacy, or other notable crimes, stand lawfully Excommunicated by the Laws of the Church; that others thereby may be admonished to refrain their companies? And doth your Minister himself refrain the company of persons excommunicated and so denounced?

Can. 75. 28. Doth your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, frequently resort to any Taverns or Ale-houses, or doth your Curate lodge or board in any such places? Do they or either of them give themselves to any base or servile labour, or to drinking or riot; or to play at Cards, or Tables, or to any other unlawful Game or Games? Or do they otherwise spend the time idly by day or by night?

Can. 70. 29. Doth your Minister every Sunday weekly, if there be occasion, in the presence of you the Churchwardens, write and record in the Register-Book the Names of all persons christned, together with the Names and Surnames of their Parents; and also the Names and Surnames of all persons married and buried in that Parish the Week before, and the day and year of every such Christning, Marriage, and Burial; and to every Page thereof when it is filled, have the former Churchwardens, and your said Minister subscribed their Names? And is a true Copy of the said Christnings, Marriages, and Burials subscribed with the Names of your Minister and the Churchwardens, transmitted yearly within one moneth after the 25th of March, unto the Bishop of the Diocese, to be preserved in the Registry; and is the said Certificate received into the Registry without Fee?

Can. 74. 30. Doth your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, use any undecent apparel, or improper for his quality and degree, or in the habit of his hair, or other Ornaments of his Body, or new-fangled Attire; rendering himself unfit to receive the Honour and Estimation due to a messenger or Minister of God?

Vide Oath.
Can. 127. 31. Do you know that any Ecclesiastical Judge, or any of the Registrars or Apparators, or other Officers belonging to the Ecclesiastical Courts, hath taken Rewards or Gifts for perverting Justice, or denied Ju-

Justice to any man who lawfully required the same?

32. Do you know or have heard that any of the said Judges or Registers, or any belonging to the said Courts, do favour any Popish or other Recusants, or do forbear to enquire, cite, denounce and censure them?

33. Have the said Ecclesiastical Judges appointed and constituted certain and determined Surrogates and Substitutes, such as are Persons of Gravity, favourers of true Religion, and men of modest and honest Conversation? or otherwise have they appointed persons scandalous for being addicted to Intemperance, Incontinence or any kind of vice, or Persons that are favourers, promoters, or assisters of Clandestine Marriages, or such as care not to preserve the necessary Discipline, and honour of the Church?

Can. 128.

34. Whether hath the Chancellour, Commissaries, or any using Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction upon the Presentation or Information given unto him, of any offences or scandals in your Parish, not punished the persons detected, so that the Congregation hath not been satisfied both of Justice done, and of the amendment of the Party, and who were the parties committing the said offences, as Incest, Adultery, Fornication, Drunkenness, Blasphemy, Heresie, Clandestine Marriage, profaning of the Church, or such like?

35. Whither hath any Ordinary in the Diocess commuted the Penance of any Delinquent convicted? What persons have so commuted, and how hath the money been disposed of to Charitable uses as far as you know or have heard?

Vide Can. An. 1571. Tit. Cancellarii & Can. 1597. C. nequa, &c.

36. Whither do the Ecclesiastical Judges suffer any persons detected for Crimes to sue and molest Churchwardens who detected them for the same?

Can. 115.

37. Whither do you know or have heard that any of the said Judges, when the deceased died without a Will, hath assigned any part of the Goods to charitable uses, and how have you known them to have been employed?

Plowden, An. 7 Eliz. fol. 278.

38. Whether in such cases of dying without a Will, doth the Ecclesiastical Judge send out Intimation to summon the Creditors, Wife, Children, and Kindred to come

Stat. 21. H. 8.

Articles.
roure and take Administration, and commit the same as far as the Law permits, not to needy persons, but to able men, and such as enter sufficient Bond, to preserve the Estate, and to answer all that is due, and save the Lord Bishop his heirs?

39. Whether doth the said Judg Ecclesiastical when a Benefice is vacant, commit Sequestration to able men that do answer and account truly for the mean Profits? And whether are the Parishes during the vacancy well served with able Ministers?

Can. 135. 40. Whether do you know or have credibly heard, that the said Judges Ecclesiastical, Registers, or Appraisors do take any extraordinary or more Fees for Probate of Wills, Administrations, Accounts, Assignations of Portions or Citations, or for any other Act or thing done or sped by them then are allowed by the Statutes of the Land, or any Fees greater then heretofore have been accustomed in other Businesses belonging to their Courts?

Can. 134. 41. Whether do you know, or have heard that any Register of the said Courts hath sped any Act, or dismissed any Person detected without the knowledge and actual consent of the Judg?

Can. 103.
Constitut.
1497. Tit.
de moderan-
dis Indul-
gentiis.

42. Doth the Chancellour Commissary, or Official or any of their Surrogates carelessly, or for hope of gain, dispense or grant Licenses for the Celebration of Matrimony, untill it do appear to the person himself who is Judg in these Cases by the Vowes of two sufficient Witnesses, one of them known to the Judg, or to some person whom the Judg dares trust in this particular, That the express consent of the Parents or Parent (if one be dead) or Guardians, or Guardian of the Parties, is thereunto had and obtained, and until one of the parties to be married have personally sworn that he believeth there is no let or impediment of Precontract, Kindred or Alliance, nor any other lawful Cause, nor any Suit commenced in any Ecclesiastical Court, to bar or hinder the proceeding of the said Matrimony?

Can. 136. 43. Whether is there in every place where Ecclesiastical Courts are kept, and also in the Registry of every such

such office or Court a table of Fees set up, that every one may read the same, containing all the Fees that every Officer of the Court ought to take according to the Canon made at the Convocation under Archbishop Whitgift, An. Dom. 1597.

44. Whether are there more Apparators belonging to the Courts then the Law alloweth, or heretofore were accustomed? Whether do any of the Apparators buy or take to Farm their Offices, or the execution of the same?

Can. 138.

45. Whether doth any person to your knowledg, or as you have heard, take upon him to execute both the places of Judge and Register, directly or indirectly?

46. Is there any strife or contention among any of your Parish, for their Pews or Seats in the Church? Have any new Pews been erected in your Church or Chancel without leave from the Ordinary upon Survey made according to Law?

47. Have you any Parishioner, that being 16 years of Age, doth not receive the Communion at the least thrice in the year, (of which Easter is one) or that doth not receive the Sacrament, according to the Order of the Common Prayer Book? Or that doth not reckon with his Parson, Vicar, or Curate, or his or their Duties at Easter yearly paying such Ecclesiastical Duties as are customably due then, and at that time to be paid?

Can. 114.

Rubr.

Can. 112.

48. Do all and every Householder of your Parish, Fathers, Mothers, Masters, and Mistresses, cause their Children, Servants and Apprentices, which have not learned their Catechism, to come unto the Church on Sundays and Holy Dayes in the afternoon, obediently to hear, and to be ordered by the Minister, till they have learnt the same?

Can. 59.

49. Have you any in your Parish that refuse to contribute and pay the rate assessed upon him for the repair of the Church or Chappel, or the providing of any Books, Utensils, and necessary Ornaments to the same belonging? Present the names of such who do refuse?

Can. 85.

50. Have you any that keep company and hold society with such as are denounced and declared Excommunicate?

Can. 65.

Can. 107. 51. Have you any living in your Parish who have been legally separated and divorced, and have afterwards been married unto others, either Men or Women, during the life of each other? Or that being so divorced as aforesaid, keep company with each other at Bed and at Board? Or any that being lawfully married, do yet live asunder, without a Separation in due Course of Law?

Can. 99. 52. Have you any Persons in your Parish which are and have been married within the Degrees prohibited by the Laws of God, and expressed in the Table set forth by Authority? Particularly, do any cohabit, who have married the Sister of their former Wife, or their Brother or Sisters Daughter? And is the said Table publickly set up and fixed in your Church or Chappel at the Charge of the Parish?

Can. 92. 53. Are there in your Parish any Wills unproved, or any Goods unadministred? Did any dying in your Parish give any Legacy unto your Church or Chappel, or to the use of the poor and needy? How have the Legacies so given been disposed of, by whom and whose Authority; and have they otherwise been disposed of, than to the said Pious and Charitable Uses?

Can. 77, & 78. 54. Doth any Man in your Parish teach either in Publick School or private house, but such as be allowed by the Bishop of the Diocese, or other Ordinary of the Place, under his Hand and Seal? And if there be no publick Grammar School in your Parish, doth any other teach School in your Parish then your Curate only, if he be willing so to do?

Can. 91. 55. Have you belonging to your Church or Chappel a Parish Clerk, aged Twenty years at the least? Is he of honest Conversation, sufficient for his reading, writing, and also for his competent skill in Singing? Is your said Clerk chosen by any but your Parson, Vicar, or other Minister; and doth your Clerk so chosen, as before is said, receive his ancient and usual Wages, without any fraud or diminution, as hath been accustomed? Or who is it that denieth to pay those Wages?

56. Is there any in your Parish either Master or Servant, Sojourner or Inhabiter or any other whatsoever, that hath offended either by Adultery, Whoredome, Incest, or Drunkenness; or by Swearing, Ribaldry, or Filthy Speaking, Extortion, Sowing of Discord amongst Neighbours, or any other Uncleaness or Wickedness of Life? You shall faithfully present all and every the said Offenders?

Can. 109.

115.

57. Do all and every person or persons inhabiting or sojourning within your Parish, diligently and faithfully resort to your Parish Church or Chappel accustomed upon every Sunday and other dayes appointed and used to be kept as Holydayes? Do they then and there abide orderly and soberly, during the time of Common Prayer, Preaching, or other Service of God there to be used or ministred? Or (which is contrary thereunto) have you any that come unto the Preachings onely, and not unto the Common Prayer? Or coming to the Common Prayer, neither use to come at the beginning, nor tarry out unto the end? Or that being there, do rudely and disorderly behave themselves; or which by walking, talking, or any other noise, do hinder the Minister or Preacher?

1 Eliz.

Cap. 2.

Const. 1571.

Cap. 5.

Can. 111.

58. Have you any in your Parish that upon Holydayes imploy themselves in their bodily and ordinary labour, or that permit their Servants so to do; unless it be at the time of the Harvest (or at any other time when necessity shall require;) or that keep open Shops in the time of Divine Service? Or have you any Ale-houses, Inn-keepers, or Victuallers, that do themselves, or permit others to Cripple, Dice, or play at Cards, or any other Game, in the time of Divine Service?

5, 6 Ed. 6.

Cap. 3.

59. Whether have any in your Parish received or harboured any Woman with Child, suspected to be of an incontinent life, or have had any such Woman delivered of a Child in his or her house, or have suffered such Woman to depart without Penance first inflicted upon her by the Ordinary? If yea, you shall present as well the person harbouring as harboured; and all that

Can. 109.

that help to conuey them away; and the parties suspected to have committed Adultery or Fornication with them?

*Lindwood
de Simonia,
Cap. ult.*

60. Whether do you know, or have heard of any Patron, or any having an Advowson in your Parish that hath made gain by any Colour, Deceit, or Simonaical Contract, in bestowing his Benefice, and presenting to the same for Gain; or for receiving of money, or promise of the Lease of the whole or part; or by reseruing his own Tythes, or any Pension to himself or any other?

61. Whether doth any person or persons in your Parish, either for the Offences aforesaid, or any other contumacy or crime, remain excommunicated; what be their Names, and for what Cause, and how long have they stood excommunicated?

Rubr.

62. Doth your Rector, Vicar, Curate, or Lecturer, read the Common Prayer with an audible distinct voice, doth he read all and every part thereof without omitting or adding thereto?

Rubr.

63. Doth your Minister or Curate declare on the Sunday what Holydaies and Fasting daies are in the Week following? Give notice of the Communion, Bannes of Matrimony, read the Brieves, and Excommunications delivered to him?

Rubr.

64. Are the Forms of Prayer and Thanksgivings for the Fifth of November, Thirtieth of January, and Nine and Twentieth of May, solemnly read in your Parish on the several daies appointed for the same?

Rubr.

65. Have you any Children in your Parish that are unbaptized, present the Names of their Parents, and the Ages of the said Children, as neer as can be computed?

66. Have the former Church-wardens levied by way of Distress on the Goods, Lands, and Tenements of every person in your Parish, that hath not resorted unto your Parish Church or Chappel on every Sunday and Holyday throughout the year (having no reasonable excuse to be absent) the Summe of Twelve Pence for every Sunday or Holyday in which he was

to absent; and did they distribute the several
summes so levied, as before is said, among the Poor
of the Parish; according to the Law in that case pro-
vided?

67. Finally, By vertue of your Oath taken, you
are to make true Presentment of the Names and Sur-
names of all such Persons as have Offended, or are
commonly reported to have Offended in any of the
Particulars above specified, or against any point of
His Majesties Ecclesiastical Laws, though not above-
mentioned?

F I N I S.
